of rock-salt whence the jet flows, is supposed to be 1,000 feet thick, and the brine had been found to hold no less than 27½ per cent. of salt. The water as it issues from the surface has a temperature of 66 deg. Fahrenheit, and is delivered at the rate of 100 cubic feet a minute. The ejecting force is said to be a source of carbonic acid gas met with at a depth of 1,680 feet from the surface. The perforation is to be sunk 30 feet deeper, and the well completed at the end of this year. The annual produce of salt from this source is to be limited to 6,000,000 lbs., which, after deducting 60,000 florins for expenses, will add to the Bavarian crown revenue, at current prices, 300,000 florins. The whole cost of this great Artesian work will amount to 80,000 florins (6,666*l.*). It was begun in the shaft of an old well called the Schönborn, in 1832, and during 11 years, 800 feet only were bored. But in 1843 Inspector Joseph Knorr advised the government to resume operations, which have never since been interrupted, day or night, till now.

The Scottish National Gallery.—On the 30th ult. his Royal Highness Prince Albert laid the foundation stone of the new edifice to be erected on the mound at Edinburgh, in the midst of an immense concourse of people, who thronged the hill sides and open spaces in one continuous amphitheatre from Holyrood to the Prince's-street-gardens, in the midst of which the mound rises. After the ceremony, the Prince, in a speech wherein he made graceful allusion to the influence and importance of the fine arts, said that it was gratifying to find that part of the funds available for the support of this undertaking should be the ancient grant which, at the union of the two kingdoms, was secured towards the encouragement of the fisheries and manufactures of Scotland, as it afforded a most pleasing proof that these important branches of industry have arrived at that stage of manhood and prosperity that—no longer requiring the aid of a fostering Government—they can maintain themselves independently, relying upon their own vigour and activity, and can now in their turn lend assistance and support to their younger and weaker sisters, the fine arts. The history of this grant exhibits to us the picture of a most healthy national progress: the ruder arts connected with the necessaries of life first gaining strength; then education and science supervening and directing further exertions; and, lastly, the arts, which only adorn life, becoming longed for by a prosperous and educated people.

St. Stephen's, Walbrook.—The repairs are about to be commenced, we hope effectively. The picture by B. West is taken down to be placed in the north transept—and a window is to be opened over the other. It is expected the grocers' company will present one of stained glass. The carved work has been placed in the hands of Mr. Rogers. The organ gallery will be enriched similarly to that of St. Mary-at-Hill. Over the altar is to be placed a new cornice, in keeping with the style of the church, and enriched with carvings of fruit and flowers. The architect is Mr. Turner; the builder, Mr. Young.

Rating Small Tenements.—By an Act now in force (13 and 14 Victoria, cap. 99), passed on the 14th instant, for the better assessing and collecting the poor and highway rates in respect of small tenements, it is provided that vestries are to determine whether 6*l.* tenements shall be rated to the owners instead of the occupiers, and when thus rated the owners are to be rated on a reduced scale. The goods of the occupiers are to be liable for the rates as well as the goods of the owners. Municipal privileges are not to be taken away from occupiers by rating the owners, but owners of tenements held for longer periods than from year to year are entitled to add the rent to the amount paid for rates. The Act extends only to England and Wales.

Casting Metal Flanges on Glass Tubes.—In a patent recently taken out, Mr. William Mayo, of Silver-street, Wood-street, Cheapside, manufacturer, claims the casting of metal joints on tubes or pipes of earthenware, to connect such tubes, or for the connection of such tubes to plates or surfaces of glass and earthenware, or for connecting to each other such plates or surfaces of glass and earthenware.—*Mech. Mag.*

The Square and Curve.—Referred Rangabe states (see The Builder, p. 404) that, "Of all those lines whose magnificent harmony is the source of the inimitable beauty of the Parthenon, there is not one which is a straight line." He says this in strictly observed throughout; then, closely following the order of nature, which avoids a straight line. Permit me to ask, is there no straight line in the triangular pediments of the east and west fronts, which are, or were, so richly embellished with exquisite sculptures? "J. B. W." (see p. 400) says, that architecture is in a great degree unnatural, as it copies no type in nature exactly. This is literally true, for it is purely a human invention. I grant that it may sometimes imitate the *routine* of nature with good effect, but to follow her closely throughout appears to be neither practicable nor desirable. The great charm of architecture is its contrast to nature; and much of its beauty consists in squareness and uniformity.—Lapis.

*** The curvature alluded to by Professor Rangabe was to obtain squareness in effect, which straight lines would not have given.

Drawing Copies.—A cheap graduated series of drawing-copies on landscape subjects, by Mr. F. W. Hulme, has just now been published by the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor, and will be found very useful for schools. Mr. Hulme's skill as a landscape draughtsman is so well known, that it is unnecessary for us to say these copies are drawn with a free bold hand, and are just what they should be. A fourth part should be added, to carry the student on one step further.

Boston, U. S.—Major Bigelow, brother-in-law of Mr. Lawrence, the American minister here, and at present Mayor of Boston, has contributed a sum of 1,000 dollars to that city in aid of the establishment of a free public library there. A committee is about to carry the purpose of the mayor into effect, several other influential and wealthy persons having promised to co-operate. The hon. Governor Edward Everett, himself a former minister to the court of St. James's, has tendered his collection of public documents and state papers to the Boston city government. According to the local *Daily Advertiser*, it amounts to about 1000 volumes, and contains every thing material from the foundation of the Government down to 1825, and is tolerably complete to 1840. Governor Everett suggests that if the Government provide a suitable building, it would be so amply supplied from time to time by donations, that only a moderate annual appropriation for books would be wanted. The people would regard it as their own creation, and take a pride in its increase.

Bedfordshire and St. Alban's Archæological and Architectural Societies.—On Tuesday week these societies met at Dunstable, Mr. H. Brandreth in the chair, when Mr. G. Somers Clarke read a paper on the "Architecture and History of Dunstable Church, to which we may revert. Mr. Bergne then read one on "Local Tokens," and the Rev. H. Rose another on the "Architectural Designs on Ancient Coins." One of the barrows on the Downs was examined, but nothing was found of any importance, and it was concluded that it was not of Roman, but of British origin, and of an earlier period than that in which the former held the island.

Progressive Society of Liverpool Joiners.—On Tuesday week this Society held a public meeting in the Concert-hall, for the purpose of developing the objects of the Society, and soliciting additional support in its favour. There was a very numerous attendance. The chair was occupied by the mayor.

The Public Libraries and Museums Act, which has passed the Legislature, repeals the Act passed five years ago, for encouraging the establishment of museums in large towns; and makes it lawful for the mayor, on the request of the town council of any municipal borough (with a population exceeding 10,000 at the last census), to ascertain whether the Act shall be adopted for such borough. Two-thirds of the burgess voters, for or against the halfpenny rate, &c., rule the question. If the burgesses on the poll should determine against the adoption of the Act, it is not to be again proposed within two years.

Presidency of the Royal Academy.—The lamented decease of Sir Martin Archer Shee leaves the presidency of the Royal Academy open, and various speculations have been made as to his successor. As, however, they are *but* speculations, and a very few days will decide the matter, we avoid giving currency to them.

Penny Maps.—To place a series of useful maps really within the reach of the working man, Messrs. Chapman and Hall have commenced an issue at a *penny* each, to comprise, when completed, about 100 maps, which will admit of all the most important countries being given on enlarged scales. The first part contains Denmark, Hungary, East and West, Holland, and Belgium; the second gives England, north and south, Scotland and Ireland. Clearness is the great thing to be aimed at, and seems here fairly attained.

Removing a Church at Liverpool.—In consequence of the enlargement of the London and North-Western Railway Company's station, the church for the blind, formerly situated in Lord Nelson-street, has been removed carefully, piece by piece, from its previous "location," and is now being rebuilt, exactly in its former style and size, by Messrs. S. and J. Holme. Each piece of stone is carefully marked previous to removal; and, in a few weeks, the frequenters of this popular religious edifice will see it in its new situation, opposite the Philharmonic Hall, without a single stone, or even piece of timber, added or taken away. The interior, also, will present no change. The sight of a comparatively old and weather-beaten church gradually rising from the ground, surrounded by so many new and handsome public edifices, is not only novel, but, we believe, perfectly unique in the annals of the building trade. [Not so very novel: a church was lately removed at Edinburgh in the same way.] It was the first public building at which Mr. Samuel Holme worked, and he intends placing the last brick in its proper place with his own hands. The new asylum for the blind, which stands close to the church, is also fast approaching completion.—*Albion.*

Newspaper Correspondence.—Editors, publishers, and correspondents of newspapers in the United States have now the privilege of using the post-office *professionally* free of charge for correspondence.

"Christian" Architecture.—To maintain that *Gothic* architecture is essentially *Christian* architecture is preposterous. The Gothic did not even generally prevail at any period of the history of Christianity; it appeared only a thousand years after the establishment of the Church by the state, and it never flourished in Asia, in Africa, in the east of Europe, or in Italy or Sicily; it is therefore a comparatively late style, and was spread over a small portion of Christendom only,—a few hundred miles east and west of the Rhine, and in England. In point of time also its duration was short; it did not survive four centuries, whereas other styles have not only been more widely spread in Christendom, but have endured longer, so that neither in point of space nor time can Gothic be termed "Christian Architecture." The great mass of Christian churches have been Roman, Byzantine, Lombard, Norman, Moorish, Italian, or classical: for the first twelve hundred years, Romanesque, and subsequently, shared by Gothic with the Italian and classical.—*Art-Journal.*

Wide Again.—Mr. Editor, pray give the following list of tenders for alterations in Pullen's-row, Islington, which were delivered on the 23rd instant. Mr. Wright, architect. It is rather startling:—

Hughes	£938	0	0
Deacon	830	0	0
Nash	785	0	0
W. Hill and Co.	779	0	0
Elston and Son	760	0	0
W. M. Hill and Son	740	0	0
Kesteven	498	15	0½

H. H.

Observe the following tenders for a new church at Edgbaston, Warwickshire. Mr. S. S. Teulon, Architect. Quantities not furnished:

Cooper (Derby)	£5,904
Briggs (Birmingham)	5,540
Branson and Gwyther (Birmingham)	5,100
Smith (ditto)	4,900
Roebuck (Loughby) (accepted, I believe)	3,691

Senex.

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